(b) if so, what is the status of the proposal; and

(c) by when the proposal of the State Government would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Indian Airlines was operating a daily service between Varanasi and Bhubaneshwar with A320 aircraft till August, 1996. However, the Average carriage between Varanasi and Bhubaneshwar was only around 10-12 passengers per flight, which was not sufficient to support economically viable operations. Therefore, the route was restructured to provide non-stop operations between Delhi and Bhubaneshwar, in order to provide a better product to passengers on the Delhi-Bhubaneshwar route. The current traffic potential between Varanasi and Bhubaneshwar is still not adequate to ensure viable operations of the flight.

**Allotment of petrol and diesel outlets**

†*192. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of petrol and diesel outlets allotted in the country from 1st April, 2003 to 30th September, 2004;

(b) the number of petrol pumps allotted in each State and Union Territory; and

(c) whether Government propose to formulate any new policy regarding allotment of petrol pumps?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) During the period 1.4.2003 to 30.9.2004, public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) have allotted 5,980 retail outlets (petrol/diesel pumps) throughout the country. State/Union Territory-wise details are given in Statement-I (*See* below). In addition, 404 petrol pumps have been set up by the private oil marketing companies, details of which are given in Statement-II. (*See* below)

(c) No, Sir. Within Government's broad policy framework, OMCs have laid down their respective guidelines for the selection of dealers for retail outlets and the allotment of dealerships to selected candidates.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

***Statement-I***

*Number of retail outlets allotted in the country by the public sector oil companies during the period from 1.4.2003 to 30.9.2004*

| State/Union Territory | Number of retail outlets allotted |
|---|---|
| Arunachal Pradesh | 10 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 559 |
| Assam | 60 |
| Bihar | 206 |
| Chhattisgarh | 108 |
| Goa | 13 |
| Gujarat | 303 |
| Haryana | 274 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 79 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 63 |
| Jharkhand | 85 |
| Karnataka | 329 |
| Kerala | 358 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 340 |
| Maharashtra | 587 |
| Meghalaya | 35 |
| Mizoram | 7 |
| Manipur | 7 |
| Nagaland | 7 |
| Orissa | 175 |
| Punjab | 550 |
| Rajasthan | 336 |
| Sikkim | 6 |
| Tamil Nadu | 542 |
| Tripura | 5 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 555 |
| Uttaranchal | 66 |
| West Bengal | 246 |
| Chandigarh | 1 |
| Delhi | 33 |
| Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 5 |
| Daman & Diu | 3 |
| Pondicherry | 27 |
| TOTAL : | 5,980 |

***Statement-II***

*Number of retail outlets set up by the private oil marketing companies*

| State/Union Territory | Number of retail outlets set up by the Reliance Industries Limited | Number of retail outlets set up by the Essar Oil Limited | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Andhra Pradesh | 32 | 3 | 35 |
| Bihar | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Gujarat | 55 | 39 | 94 |
| Haryana | 6 | 11 | 17 |
| Jharkhand | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Karnataka | 17 | 5 | 22 |
| Kerala | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 7 | 10 | 17 |
| Maharashtra | 32 | 49 | 81 |
| Orissa | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Punjab | 17 | 16 | 33 |
| Rajasthan | 24 | 13 | 37 |
| Tamil Nadu | 19 | 5 | 24 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 18 | 7 | 25 |
| West Bengal | 9 | 0 | 9 |
| Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| TOTAL : | 243 | 161 | 404 |

**Development of tourism in North-Eastern States**

†*193. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the places identified and developed by Government for encouraging tourism in North-Eastern States during last three years; and

(b) the scheme formulated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Tourist places identified in consultation with

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.